In the claims:

1. (currently amended) A method of treating a bronchoconstrictive disease ~~condition~~ mediated by neutrophil cells in a patient, comprising administering a histamine binding compound to the patient in a therapeutically-effective amount, wherein the histamine binding compound is selected from:

a) ~~the~~ EV131 protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 6; or

b) a fragment of the EV131 protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 6 that retains a biological function of EV131, wherein the fragment comprises the sequence motif aspartic acid (D)/glutamic acid (E), alanine (A), tryptophan (W), and lysine (K)/arginine (R) and the sequence motif tyrosine (Y)/cysteine (C), glutamic acid (E)/aspartic acid (D), leucine (L)/isoleucine (I)/phenylalanine (F), and tryptophan (W), and wherein said biological function is the ability to bind specifically to histamine with a dissociation constant of less than 10^{-7}M.

2. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said EV131 protein or said fragment of the EV131 protein that retains a biological function of EV131 is fused to a peptide or other protein to generate a fusion protein.

3. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said bronchoconstrictive disease ~~condition~~ is selected from the group consisting of adult respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS); infant respiratory distress syndrone (IRDS); severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS); chronic obstructive airways disease (COPD); cystic fibrosis; and ventilator induced lung injury (VILI).

4. (previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein said fusion protein comprises a label.

5. (previously presented) The method according to claim 4, wherein said label is bioactive, radioactive, enzymatic or fluorescent, or an antibody.

6-10. (canceled).

11. (currently amended) A method of treating a bronchoconstrictive disease ~~condition~~ mediated by neutrophil cells in a patient, comprising administering a histamine binding compound to the patient in a therapeutically-effective amount, wherein the histamine binding compound is EV131 protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 6.

12. (previously presented) The method of claim 11, wherein EV131 protein is fused to a peptide or other protein to generate a fusion protein.

13. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the fusion protein comprises a label.

14. (previously presented) The claim 13, wherein said label is bioactive, radioactive, enzymatic or fluorescent, or an antibody.

15. (currently amended) The method according to claim 11, wherein said bronchoconstrictive disease ~~condition~~ is selected from the group consisting of adult respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS); infant respiratory distress syndrome ~~syndrone~~ (IRDS); severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS); chronic obstructive airways disease (COPD); cystic fibrosis; and ventilator induced lung injury (VILI).